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The Semi-Weekly Tribune.

IRA L. BARE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

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second-class matter.

The state comptroller of Texas has issued a license for the Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize fight, and nothing can now prevent the exhibition, which will undoubtedly prove brutal. The fair name of Texas will not be elevated in the opinion of decent people by permitting this fight to take place.

The Tribune's position on the silver question has not varied. It has never advocated the unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. If the Era supposed this paper had joined the 16 to 1 procession it was simply mistaken. In the absence of an international agreement, let the coinage be confined to the American production at the proper ratio.

REV. J. H. DERRYBERRY, of Whittier precinct, has been mentioned as a candidate for treasurer before the republican county convention, and it is likely will have the support of several of the northern precincts. There has been a question as to Mr. Derryberry's party affiliations, but we are requested to state that he is a true-blue republican, though his friends admit that he was a delegate in the 1891 populist county convention.

The report that David A. Baker would be an independent candidate for sheriff in case he was not nominated by the republican county convention seems to lack confirmation. This journal is not authorized to state that Mr. Baker will be a candidate before the convention, but if he is and is not nominated, we do not believe that he will cast aside his republican principles and become an independent candidate.

In 1833 a plot of ground measuring 160x180 feet in the village of Chicago was purchased by Major Kingsbury for \$110. His heirs disposed of a little more than half of it the other day for \$565,000. The ground is to be used as the base for a high office building, this development of the modern building being quite as much responsible for the enormous increase in value as the growth of the city in recent years.

REALIZING the task they have before them in the futile attempt to elect their county candidates this fall the populist leaders have started in to count noses and ascertain just "where they are at." It leaked out that the census so far taken is most discouraging to the pops, so much so that Newell Burritt and Jake Miller are making preparations to return to their farms next spring, and Butler Buchanan is familiarizing himself with his abstract books.

A PARTING kick is administered to "Coin" by Professor Laughlin in the July Forum. After giving a table of wage statistics the professor says: "Not only does a laborer get more gold for his work in 1891, as compared with 1873, but the articles of his use have fallen. Food has fallen least since 1873, or nearly 10 per cent; clothing 32.2 per cent; fuel 23.7 per cent; metals 35 per cent; lumber nearly 20 per cent; drugs 31 per cent; house furnishings goods 27 per cent, and miscellaneous articles 10 per cent. That is, not has the purchasing power of a laborer's wages risen (as prices fell), but his very wages have risen by 8 per cent since 1873. The book is absolutely untrustworthy as to its monetary statistics and facts; its logic is childish; its demagogic appeals to class prejudice are low and unworthy, and it has no claim whatever to economic recognition."

The statistics relating to the national banks for the last fiscal year present some points of interest. The number of banks decreased fifty-five, but still there was a slight increase in the bank note circulation. There was a very considerable increase in the loans and discounts of the banks and notwithstanding the hard times the deposits increased; but the most notable fact in these statistics is the very large increase in the lawful money reserve, amounting to \$75,000,000. This is to be regarded as one evidence of the very conservative management of the banks generally. The fact that but thirty-six banks were placed in the hands of receivers during the year is not a very bad record. With the revival of business it is to be expected that there will be a greater increase in the bank note circulation during the current fiscal year, and very likely also an addition to the number of banks. Under present conditions it will develop upon these institutions to supply any required increase of the currency.—Bee.

THE STATE PRESS.

The prospects are that potatoes will be very low the coming season. The crop is simply immense. They will most likely take the place of wheat in the arguments of the 16 to 1 fellows.—Ashland Gazette.

The Barrett Scott murderers have been acquitted for their little breach of social etiquette, which is a great surprise. It was generally supposed they would be presented with gold medals and banqueted.—Fremont Tribune.

The farmer who raises an abundance of corn, cattle or hogs will find plenty of money ready to purchase his products. And that same money will pay off the mortgage, never fear. Just what the north-west is aching for more than free silver (with all respect to the white metal) is a free and unlimited crop, and if the signs fail not we are going to get it.—Hartington Herald.

The condition of corn in Kansas warrants the expectation of a crop of about \$300,000,000, worth more than the combined corn, wheat and oats crops of the state in any previous year. Nebraska not only shares in the prospect for a record breaking corn crop, but is now preparing to harvest a fair yield of wheat and an overflowing measure of oats, sugar beets and minor crops. In a short time now the money will begin pouring into these western states to move the crop and the hard times will at last be at an end.—Lincoln Journal.

The present system of assessing property is a farce and an outrage, but the ever present query is how can it be remedied? It may be necessary to change the entire system of raising revenues for the expenses of local and state government. The Papillon Times says land in Sarpy county is assessed at \$9 per acre, and in Cass county at \$6 per acre, and we infer from the article that there is little difference in the value of land in the two counties. In York county farms worth \$60 per acre are assessed at \$3 per acre, others worth from \$30 to \$40 are assessed at \$2.50. It might be possible to have land assessed by a state board of assessors, who could equalize throughout the state according to its actual market value.—York Times.

Scintillating Solos.

Cy Warman, author of "Sweet Karie," says he shall in the future write only for his own pleasure. That, alas! is what he did before.—Albany Argus.

The English crown came to Queen Victoria in the early morning. If it should come to Albert Edward at the same time of day, he might find it difficult to get it on.—Boston Globe.

How would it do if the trustees of the Fair estate should advertise generally for the wives to present themselves for identification. That would perhaps save counsel fees and simplify matters.—Philadelphia Press.

A fly in beer has furnished a German newspaper with a theme for a study of national characteristics from which America is naturally omitted. There are no flies on American beer.—Philadelphia Record.

"Americans should eat pie with the fingers," says the New York Sun. There are plenty of Americans who would be glad to do so if a place were only made for them at the pie counter.—Kansas City Journal.

Yes, blessed is the peacemaker. It is reported that Hon. John W. Foster is to receive a fee of a quarter of a million dollars for the aid he gave the Chinese government in settling terms of peace with Japan. So much for listening to the Chinese tale of woe.—Boston Herald.

Census inspectors in Milwaukee are acquiring the habit of getting spanked by indignant Polish ladies who do not desire to be enumerated. This is not exactly an insult to the flag but something will have to be done about it just the same. No census can be properly taken if the enumerator has to keep his mind fixed on the bang of his ironing board.—St. Louis Star-Sayings.

Chicago, like the rest of Illinois, is affected by a new Sunday anti-shaving law, which will go into effect July 1. This innovation will give the barbers an opportunity to go to the ball game or theaters Sunday afternoon.—Boston Globe. California has the bicycle craze. It is estimated that wheels to the value of \$2,000,000 have been imported into the state from the east during the present season. There are no bicycle manufacturers in the Pacific coast states.

STEPHEN GIRARD, of Philadelphia, died sixty years ago and was regarded the richest man in the United States. His fortune was \$7,000,000. The great institution he founded is still flourishing and is his best monument.

MURDER A MYSTERY.

Evidence of a Crime That Is Puzzling Omaha Police.

SEVERAL SUSPECTS HELD.

Body of the Murdered Man Disappears and the Officers Are All at Sea—His Bedroom Looked Like a Slaughter-house—The Crime Record.

OMAHA, July 3.—The police are working to unravel the secret of a most mysterious murder which is presumed to have occurred at 1218 Pierce street some time after 10 p. m. The victim of the crime was John Seljan, a single man, who boards at the address named. The peculiar feature of the affair is that the body has most completely disappeared. The most careful investigation has failed to disclose the slightest clue to its disposition and the police are entirely in the dark.

Four men and a woman have been arrested on suspicion of having committed the crime. Bloodstains on their clothing constitute the principal evidence against them. The suspicion of their guilt is strengthened by the story that Seljan had only a day or two ago received \$1,000. This is supposed to have furnished the motive for the crime. Seljan's coat and vest were found covered with blood at the foot of Harney street. The bedroom at the cottage looked like a slaughterhouse. It was occupied by Amato Mikian, a family, who rented several rooms to men. Three of the boarders, Anton Kukove, John Drobnic and Mike Urban were arrested. The prisoners are all Poles. When Mikian was searched it was discovered that the left sleeve of his shirt was soaked with blood.

With this the evidence ended. Not a vestige of blood remained to indicate how the body had been taken from the room.

Double Killing in Oklahoma.

GUTHRIE, July 3.—A terrible murder is reported from Guthrie, Oklahoma. Noel Gardner was to be married to Miss Durant Monday, but her brother, Rudolph Durant, objected to the marriage, and when Gardner and Cephas Garvin, a cousin of the young lady, called at the house Sunday the brother met them at the door and shot and killed both. The murderer then fled to the woods and escaped.

Fearful Revenge of a Lover.

LAMONT, Ill., July 3.—In the village of Rome, a hut containing five women, was blown to atoms by dynamite placed beneath it by the rejected lover of one of the women. All the inmates were injured, three perhaps fatally. Luke Hoyle and Tim Hoise, both aspirants to the hand of Molly Dwyer and when Hoise was chosen. Hoise stole enough dynamite from the drainage canal works to revenge himself in this manner. He has been caught.

Prospects For a Lynching.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., July 3.—Pedro Garcia and Felix Apodaca, the alleged murderers of the sheepherders, Sandor and Pedro Lobato, Jr., were surprised in a canon 40 miles from here while they were rebranding the stolen sheep by a posse of deputized officers and shots were exchanged. The horses ridden by the murderers were shot under them, but the men escaped in the mountains. If captured they will be lynched.

Corn Crop in Good Condition.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—The weather bureau in its report of crop conditions says: The week has been generally favorable, although too cool in states of the Missouri and upper Mississippi valleys. In the southern states the corn crop is now practically laid by in generally excellent condition. Cool weather has retarded the growth of corn in the Dakotas, and while Nebraska and Minnesota report the crop backward, it is in good condition. Winter wheat harvest is nearing completion over the northern portion of the winter wheat belt and threshing is becoming general. Spring wheat is now heading and the condition of this crop continues favorable. Light frosts occurred on the 28th and 29th in portions of the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin, causing slight damage in some localities.

Fatal Boiler Explosion.

STOUT CITY, July 3.—A special to The Journal from Howard, S. D., says the boiler in the Howard Roller mill exploded, completely wrecking the building, killed the engineer and seriously injured five other people, three of them perhaps fatally. The two proprietors of the mill are not expected to live. The victims are: O. P. Walker, engineer, killed; T. C. Guld of LeMars, Ia., J. P. Larson, proprietor of the mill, not expected to live; Robert Debolt, badly mangled and badly hurt; W. A. Clark, a druggist, injured in both legs, one arm broken and head badly hurt, will survive; C. A. Lawson, seriously burned. The loss on building is about \$30,000.

Trial of Bob Fitzsimmons.

STRAUCUS, July 3.—The defense in the trial of Bob Fitzsimmons was closed with the testimony of Dr. G. A. Lyon of New York. From the description given of Borden, he would judge that he was affected with hypertrophy, which gives the heart a spasmodic action. He thought the kidneys were affected with Bright's disease; also from the description of Borden's condition, he would judge he had an enlargement of the liver and an affection of the left lung.

Nominate James A. Garfield.

WARREN, O., July 3.—James A. Garfield, son of the late president, was nominated for state senator by acclamation the Twenty-fourth day. Twenty-sixth joint district convention.

Select a Candidate For State Senator.

BOONE, Ia., July 3.—The republican county convention nominated C. J. A. Erickson for state senator. The delegates to the state convention were not instructed.

Catholic University Carpenters Strike.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—The union carpenters engaged on the Catholic university have struck for an advance in wages from \$2.50 to \$2.80 per day.

Murderer King Executed.

ROSE, Tex., July 3.—G. C. King was executed for the murder of Dr. Drovny, the governor refusing to interfere.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

PUGILIST IS MINISTER OF WAR.

Billy Waters' Rapid Rise in the Republic of Formosa.

VICTORIA, July 3.—The steamer Empress of China brings the news that "Billy" Waters of San Francisco, pugilist and bar room bouncer, is now minister of war and vice president of the republic of Formosa.

Waters' connection with the new born republic dates back only a few months, when he obtained employment at the Taiping Fu forts as instructor. It was his pugilistic powers that brought him into prominence. One night some Chinese mandarins attempted to interfere unduly with Billy's prerogative, and the ex-pugilist promptly laid them out and handled their body guard in the same free and easy fashion. His value from a military standpoint was immediately recognized by the governor.

Will Sacrifice Her Jewels.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 3.—The Chronicle says that Mrs. Leland Stanford is about to start for Europe, where she will dispose of her collection of jewels, valued at over \$500,000. Among the jewels is the famous Empress Eugenie diamond necklace, for which Mrs. Stanford paid a fabulous price. The reason for Mrs. Stanford's action is her desire to make the Stanford university a success. The litigation with the government over the Stanford estate has tied up the income, and funds are badly needed to maintain the university. In order to raise the necessary money, Mrs. Stanford will sacrifice her jewels.

Had a Narrow Escape.

CASABO, Cal., July 3.—Ex-Congressman Jop of Missouri and his bride had a narrow escape from death near here. While driving with a coaching party of 12 on a steep mountain road, with a precipice on one side, the coach overturned. Fortunately it fell toward the mountain instead of over the edge of the road. The bravery of the driver, who jumped in between the struggling horses, saved the party from being dragged to death or hurled into the gorge below. Only one person was badly hurt. Mrs. Tompkins had her hip dislocated and was injured internally.

Hostilities Resumed at Muskegon.

MUSKEGON, Mich., July 3.—Hostilities between the old and the new boom companies were resumed today. All the new company men, 48 in number, were arrested on charges of trespass. The old company will continue every day to arrest all the persons touching on their lands driving logs on what they term their private waters. This move, if successful, will result in the complete blockade of millions of feet of logs and the closing down of every mill in the city within a few weeks.

Police Are Investigating.

CHICAGO, July 3.—The police and insurance men are investigating a death in the family of Charles J. Uhl, a barber, who has predicted sudden deaths of relatives and who puts great faith in spirit information and life insurance policies. His wife and his mother-in-law each died suddenly. The police consider it a striking coincidence that both women carried life insurance. Uhl's two children, young girls, are insured. The barbers deny all connection with the deaths.

Davis Left Many Creditors.

KANSAS CITY, July 3.—Additional developments at Rossville, Kan., show that Wesley Davis, the grain dealer, who disappeared last week after an unsuccessful attempt to bull the grain market of Kansas City, owed about \$40,000 instead of the sum first mentioned when his flight became known. His creditors are principally farmers of Rossville township, Shawnee county, Kansas. Davis left everybody in the lurch. Since his disappearance creditors have been coming forward in droves.

Fair Will Complications.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 3.—The attorneys, trustees and heirs under the Fair will are said to be desirous of testing the validity of the trust clause of the document first presented for probate. It is argued by the attorneys and heirs under the holographic will that the trust to secure the first will is illegal, and much time and money would be saved by obtaining a legal decision on this point.

Michigan Delegation Secures Quarters.

CHATTANOOGA, July 3.—W. S. Green, assistant general of the Michigan National guard, who is in the city, has arranged for quarters for the Michigan official delegation at the dedication of the Chickamanga national military park. The delegation will comprise 80 people, including the governor and staff, legislative committee, General Alger and others.

Strike of Wire Drawers.

CLEVELAND, July 3.—Three hundred wire drawers at the works of the American Wire company went on strike today for a 10 per cent increase in wages. The men made a demand for the advance several days ago, and on being notified this morning that it could not be granted, went out.

Costly Blaze at Lynn.

LYNN, Mass., July 3.—Fire which started in the Sangamore hotel block, in which a large quantity of powder and fireworks was stored, destroyed property of the estimated value of \$150,000; insurance \$100,000.

Enjoins the City.

PIERRE, July 3.—The restraining order has been served on the members of the city committee enjoining them from making any further payments to the water company on the contract.

San Francisco's Treasurer Dead.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 3.—James H. Walber, treasurer of the city and county of San Francisco, died at midnight of pneumonia.

Died of His Injuries.

CHICAGO, July 3.—Leon Straus, the ex-rabbit of Belleville, who was run over by a cable car Monday, died at St. Luke's hospital.

PROF. MOORE NAMED.

Selected as Chief of the National Weather Bureau.

HARRINGTON'S SUCCESSOR.

Made a Phenomenal Record as Forecaster of the Chicago Office—Abuses in the Seed Trade—Yellow Fever at Santiago—National Capital Notes.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—It is understood that Willis J. Moore, now in the Chicago forecasting office of the weather bureau, has been selected as chief of the weather bureau to succeed Professor Harrington, removed.

The selection of Professor Moore, it is expected, will be officially announced within 24 hours. The appointment will be strictly on the line of civil service, as Professor Moore has been a life-long employee in the service. He is a Republican and was born 41 years ago. He had no political backing for the office and the announcement of his appointment will be the first intimation to him that his selection has been considered by the president and Secretary Morton. He received his appointment of the signal service when 21 years old and has been with it and the weather bureau ever since. He was educated at the signal service school of Fort Myer, Virginia, and ranked second in a graduating class of 90 members. In 1886 he became a sergeant, securing the promotion by devising mechanical methods of issuing daily weather forecasts and maps, and was immediately assigned to the preparation of meteorological charts. Later he took charge of the forecast bureau at Minneapolis, and was subsequently transferred to Milwaukee, where his work won special mention from Secretary Root. Last year there was a competitive examination for a weather bureau professorship, in which 30 scientific experts and forecasters strove for the office. The 10 candidates standing highest were selected for forecast work at the bureau in Washington. Professor Moore ranked highest. He submitted a comprehensive essay on the best methods for making forecasts of the weather, and the awards were made by a committee consisting of Professor Mandenhall, late chief of the coast and geodetic survey; Professor Harrington, whom Professor Moore now succeeds, and Major Dunwoody, assistant chief of the weather bureau.

Soon after Professor Moore was sent to Chicago and placed in charge of that station. The press of that city has been unanimous in commending his work. He made a phenomenal record last March in ordering 120 cold wave signals, of which 115 were verified by the waves themselves. During last December, January, February and March his forecasts resulted in displaying signals for 30 severe winter storms on Lake Michigan, and 27 were practically verified. He is regarded here as one of the most expert men in the service, and official point to the record he has already made as proof of qualifications for the new duties.

Chance For the Iowa Iron Works.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—With but a single exception, newspapers in the east have not been given the advertisement just issued by the navy department calling for proposals for building three new torpedo boats large enough to go to sea and make 36 knots per hour. This is owing to the fact that the language of the act under which these boats are to be built permits them to be constructed on the Atlantic coast only in the event that the navy department is unable to secure reasonable offers from responsible bidders on the Pacific coast, the Mississippi river and the Gulf of Mexico. The department has made every effort to carry out the purpose of the act of congress in this respect, and so it has published its advertisements in the papers of the Pacific coast, at San Francisco, Seattle and Portland, and for the first time in papers in Dubuque and New Orleans.

Abuses in the Seed Trade.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—An immense amount of poor seed is sold to American farmers and gardeners according to a report recently issued by the agricultural department. While other countries for many years have been looking into the subject with a view to protecting their agriculturists from abuses in the seed trade no investigations have been made in the United States except at a few experiment stations. Great apathy prevails, however, among purchasers of seed, who, as a rule, buy the cheapest in the market and trust to luck for it to produce the crop. Such seed, says the report, is dear at any price.

Yellow Fever on the Increase.

WASHINGTON, July 3.—The United States consul at Santiago de Cuba reports that yellow fever is on the increase there, but says it is impossible to give the number of cases owing to the fact that physicians in private practice do not report their cases. He says there were 19 deaths in the city from this cause during the week ending June 22.

Want Him Reinstated.

SAN JOSE, Cal., July 3.—The astronomers of the Lick observatory today sent a joint telegram to President Cleveland protesting against the removal of Professor George Davidson, chief of the coast and geodetic survey, and asking for his reinstatement. The astronomers declare that recently published scientific records demonstrate that Davidson is still one of the most active workers in the survey.

Ex-Secretary Foster Returns.

VICTORIA, July 3.—Among the passengers on the steamer Empress of China, which arrived from Hong Kong and Yokohama, was ex-Secretary of State Foster, who acted as China's agent in the peace negotiations with Japan. He left at once for Washington.